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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7156

BILL NUMBER: HB 1496

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 10, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Municipal Elections.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Cherry

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☐ **DEDICATED**
☐ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill moves elections of city and town officers to even-numbered years. The bill repeals superseded statutes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary-* The Election Commission (EC) would have authority to set rules for the drawing of precincts in municipalities that share incorporated areas between multiple counties. The EC would be able to incorporate precinct boundaries during regular scheduled business meetings.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Summary-* The municipal election of 2011 would be the last odd-year election, under the bill. Municipal offices would be elected in even-numbered years after December 31, 2011. Successors to various municipal offices would be elected in 2014, 2016, and 2018. There would be a cost savings to municipalities if elections were eliminated in odd-numbered years. If a county currently runs municipal election, there may be a savings to that county.

Multiple County Municipalities- For municipalities that have incorporated areas in more than one county, the county containing the greatest percentage of the municipality's residents would be required to establish the precincts in the municipality, supply those precincts with poll lists, and perform all other duties under election code as if the residents of the municipality from outside the county were residents of the county. Presumably, the savings from the cancellation of odd-year elections would be shifted to cover any expenditures that would occur under this provision.

Background- Expenses to run an election include: precinct election board per diem, rental of a facility for polling (if necessary), and/or voting equipment (if necessary.) Based on a small sample of Indiana counties, per diem for election board members range from \$65 to \$150 for inspectors and from \$40 to \$100 for judges, clerks, and sheriffs.

Under current law, county election boards are required, with some exceptions, to conduct a municipal primary and election. Expenses from county-operated municipal elections are reimbursed by the municipality to the county. If the expenses of a municipal primary or election cannot be directly attributed to a single municipality, the expenses are apportioned 25% to the county and 75% to the municipalities in the county holding an election.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Election Commission.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties that run municipal elections, municipalities.

Information Sources: Indiana State Budget Agency: *General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries, June 30, 2008*

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